

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Kathy McGuire
Air Quality Planning Assistant
130 Gillespie Street
Fayetteville, N.C. 28301
Telephone (910) 678-7628
Fax (910) 678-7631
e-mail: kmcguire@co.cumberland.nc.us

AIR QUALITY STAKEHOLDERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

GEORGE BREECE
CHAIRMAN
(910) 484-5430

MAYOR EDWIN S. DEAVER
VICE-CHAIRMAN
(910) 424-4555

June 23, 2003

Ms. Kay Prince
US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
61 Forsyth St. S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Dear Ms. Prince:

On behalf of the Air Quality Stakeholders of Cumberland County, I am submitting our area's initial proposed strategies. This fulfills the second Cumberland County Early Action Compact milestone requirement.

These strategies were developed over the past several months with considerable public involvement. The committee members have met monthly since the EAC was formed in December 2002. In addition to these monthly meetings, several presentations have been accomplished with the High Schools and the Time Warner Cable Vision Community Channel. Also, contact has been made with several of the local radio and television stations.

We look forward to working with the USEPA and the NC Division of Air Quality in selecting strategies to be implemented. If you have any questions or if I can provide any additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy Roy, AICP
Director, Cumberland County Planning & Inspections Department
Technical Committee Chair

Cc: Richard Schutt, USEPA
Sheila Holman, NCDAQ
Air Quality Stakeholders of Cumberland County
Air Quality Technical Committee Members

AIR QUALITY STAKEHOLDERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY
AIR QUALITY INITIAL PROPOSED STRATEGIES
JUNE 13, 2003

CATEGORY	STRATEGY	STATUS	QUANTIFIABLE?	TIME FRAME	COMMENTS
LAND USE	LANDSCAPE ORDINANCES Urban reforestation and landscaping are key elements in the reduction of the "Heat Island Effect". Require landscaping of major non-residential developments within the MSA.	FAYETTEVILLE currently has and enforces a landscape ordinance, to include retrofitting older developments. HOPE MILLS - Same as City of Fayetteville CUMBERLAND COUNTY and SPRING LAKE are currently developing standards. Smaller municipalities have discussed development of a landscape ordinance and are currently members of the local Appearance Commission.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM Ordinances should be implemented and/or revised by December 2005	A list of recommended tree type should be included in the ordinances) Fayetteville and Hope Mills would require revisions), giving preference to native plants for canopy.
LAND USE	CONDUCT A SMART GROWTH AUDIT	Cumberland County will investigate in conjunction with new Zoning Ordinance and Land Use Plans, and will invite all of the Municipalities to participate	YES	LONG TERM	
LAND USE	TRANSIT/PEDESTRIAN/MIXED USE ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT Continue to encourage and foster development along multi-modal corridors, by requiring sidewalks in sizeable residential developments and in commercial developments along thoroughfares. Continue to expand bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the area as part of thoroughfare projects and as part of municipal efforts to retrofit	FAYETTEVILLE, HOPE MILLS and SPRING LAKE require sidewalks upon development. Fayetteville and Hope Mills also encourage mixed-use developments. Try to expand this effort to all municipalities. Consider revising Cumberland County Ordinance to require sidewalks. Fort Bragg already has bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout Post. Revise the current Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to include all of the participating EAC agencies	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	The current Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan addresses only the areas within the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. A meeting date of all jurisdictions is currently being set.
LAND USE	INFILL DEVELOPMENT Continue to promote infill and brownfield development in urban areas, to utilize existing infrastructure and to maintain and/or decrease VMTs by providing multi-modal access	Provisions currently available, which also provide Municipalities' incentives	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
LAND USE	SHARED PARKING FACILITIES AND CONNECTIVITY There are currently provisions in Municipal ordinances to allow shared parking facilities among specific non-residential uses. Lateral access among businesses is also a requirement in some jurisdictions. These provisions would aid in minimizing the amount of impervious surface, and reduce stop-and-go between adjoining businesses	All local governments should review their parking and lateral access standards to conform to the highest requirements	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
LAND USE	CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN TREE COVERAGE IN WATERSHED AREAS AND EXPAND LAND ACQUISITION AS PART OF URBAN REFORESTATION	Try to obtain grants to purchase additional land as part of the Urban Reforestation Program. Work with local land trust to solicit land donation for conservation purposes			PWC already has a policy in place to maintain tree coverage in watershed areas
GOVERNMENT	ALTERNATIVE FUELS	Form a Local Governments committee to investigate regional grants and possibilities to provide AFV infrastructure. Explore possibilities to convert current local government fleets to AFV	YES	LONG TERM	THIS GROUP WILL EXPLORE BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM OPTIONS

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GOVERNMENT	CONSIDER PURSUING CLEAN CITIES DESIGNATION	UNDER CONSIDERATION	YES		DENR STAFF WILL RESEARCH IT
GOVERNMENT	BAN OPEN BURNING ON OZONE ALERT DAYS (ORANGE OR ABOVE)	Try to develop a policy with local governments within Cumberland County to ban open burning where it is currently allowed. Municipalities within the county already have a "No open Burning" policy in effect. This strategy would work like the seasonal water restrictions.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	EDUCATE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC THAT OPEN BURNING IS NOT ALLOWED IN MUNICIPALITIES, AND ENFORCE CURRENT STANDARDS
GOVERNMENT	PLACING IDLING RESTRICTIONS	May require local and State legislative action. Will require additional power sources for local major events.			AT LOCAL LEVEL, WILL REQUIRE COORDINATION BETWEEN CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, PWC AND EVENTS ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS.
MOBILE SOURCE	DISCOURAGE USING OFF ROAD VEHICLES DURING HIGH OZONE ALERT DAYS.	May require legislative action			In place at PWC - could be implemented at other agencies as a strategy
MOBILE SOURCE	ALTERNATIVE FUELS VEHICLES	FT BRAGG is currently switching to Bio-Diesel for its non-tactical vehicles. As many as 160 vehicles should use bio-diesel by 2005. The Fort Bragg Sustainability plan proposes to reduce use of gasoline and diesel in non-tactical vehicles by 70% by 2015 and by 99% by 2025.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
MOBILE SOURCE	RETROFITTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT VEHICLES Review process and feasibility to retrofit diesel fleets, to include school buses, and evaluate costs	UNDER CONSIDERATION	YES	SHORT TERM	
MOBILE SOURCE	PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO SEEK EARLY INTRODUCTION OF ULTRA-LOW SULFUR DIESEL FUEL	UNDER CONSIDERATION	YES	SHORT TERM	Work with DENR and other EAC participants in the State
MOBILE SOURCE	USING ITS AND DMS FOR CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AND OZONE ALERTS Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) can aid in the control of traffic flow in congested areas and in the motorists warning in incident management, minimizing idling during peak times and reducing emissions	TIP Project U-3635 Closed Loop Signal System, is currently under construction. This project will provide a new area-wide closed loop signal system and the rehabilitation of the existing computerized signal system. As part of the project, Dynamic Message Signs and cameras will be installed at congested intersections/corridors, to facilitate real time traffic management and motorist warning. The DMS system can also be used for Ozone Alert information.	YES	SHORT TERM	PROJECT IS IN FULL SWING AND SHOULD HAVE DATA FROM CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT- TRAFFIC SERVICES. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT WILL DECREASE IDLING

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MOBILE SOURCE	LOCAL GOV'T CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS GIVE PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION TO CONTRACTORS WHO GUARANTEE LOWER EMITTING EQUIPMENT	Local Governments are currently reviewing standards for contracts, to decide if a policy or ordinance amendment shall be required to implement this strategy	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	New contract requirements should be included on new bids by 2005
MOBILE SOURCE	COORDINATE WITH LOCAL SMARTWAY TRANSPORT CHARTER PARTNERS (IE: COCA COLA, UPS, CSX) FOR THE EARLY DEPLOYMENT OF VOLUNTARY POLLUTION REDUCTION MEASURES	The Air Quality Committee will contact Local offices of the Chartered partners and will request that the voluntary measures agreed upon by Corporate headquarters be implemented in this area expeditiously	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
MOBILE SOURCE	ENCOURAGE PARK AND RIDE FOR LARGE EVENTS.	Currently being implemented through FAST and Private Transportation providers (ex. Festival of Flight). Provide shuttle at a nominal cost to public. The cost involved must be considered			Decreases VMTs
CONSERVATION	REDUCING ENERGY USE THROUGH RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, USE OF MORE EFFICIENT HEATING AND A/C UNITS	UNDER CONSIDERATION Cumberland County has 17 recycling sites throughout the county, with each resident of the entire county within a 6 mile radius from a center. Recycling is still a voluntary program in this area. Fort Bragg has an aggressive recycling program, as part of its Sustainability plan. Ft. Bragg's goal is to reach a Landfill waste of 0% by 2025.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
CONSERVATION	USE RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES WHEN AVAILABLE (EX: SOLAR AND METHANE)	Cumberland County is currently harvesting methane from the landfill and, through a contract with Biomass Energy, is selling it to supplement the energy needs of Cargill Inc., a local industry	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	It is projected that methane production from the landfill should increase by 2005
CONSERVATION	FORMULATE CAR AND VAN POOLING INCREASE MASS TRANSIT INCREASE RURAL TRANSPORTATION PARATRANSIT	UNDER CONSIDERATION The Fayetteville Area System of Transit is currently evaluating routes expansion into more dense areas within the metropolitan area. Rural transportation is currently being expanded to connect outlying areas of the county and smaller municipalities with the city core and major shopping areas. Vanpooling and carpooling programs are being advertised by the transit provider. An aggressive awareness campaign could propose transit as an alternate mode of transportation during high ozone days. The Metropolitan Planning Organization is currently in the process of updating the Countywide Transit Plan. Target businesses and industries.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	Increase frequency of transit services to 15 minutes during peak periods

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CONSERVATION	ENCOURAGE CONSTRUCTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS, RETROFITTING OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS	The GOODCENTS Housing Program, which was developed nationwide in 1976, promotes the construction of energy efficient homes. The local utility company has been certifying buildings that meet the program standards. Additional advertisement and promotion should encourage residents to prefer energy efficient buildings. Local government efforts to use energy efficient and high albedo material during construction or repair of existing structures, can help in the reduction of heat island effects throughout the urban area. Cumberland county is already exploring possibilities to include white roofing as a standard practice during repair of its buildings. FT. BRAGG is currently implementing energy reduction as indicated by Executive Order 13123 and is currently revising strategies as part of its Sustainability Plan	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	Identify Model Homes and promote to the general public, emphasizing economic and environmental benefits. Ex. Parade of Homes
AWARENESS	STUDENT OUTREACH THROUGH EDUCATION SYSTEMS Educate future and new drivers in minimizing impact of motor vehicles on the environment, particularly during the ozone season. Teach students about trip chaining, stop gassing at the click and fill up after 6 pm, and avoid mowing the lawn during the day on high ozone days. Also check ozone forecasts daily and visit available web sites to get tips	Currently under way and expanding at local schools. The "Ten simple steps" of "It All Adds Up to Cleaner Air" and the "Easy Breathe" video are being used as tools; PWC currently does conservation education through their billing system. Local utilities are in the process of including the ten simple steps and/or ozone articles in their bills.	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	Not only reaches student, but parents as well. Include higher education such as: FTCC, FSU, etc.
AWARENESS	PUBLIC EDUCATION AT COMMUNITY EVENTS & CHURCHES Participate in organized events to educate the public in ways to reduce pollution during the ozone season and advertise the local web page that provides air quality information and relevant links	ON-GOING PROMOTING THE TEN SIMPLE STEPS	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	PUBLIC OUTREACH AT COMMUNITY EVENTS & CHURCHES Provide the general public with the tools to remain informed and participate in community meetings and planning related to air quality issues. Foster good citizenship by providing a forum to learn and discuss several methods to improve air quality in the region	ON-GOING PROMOTING THE TEN SIMPLE STEPS	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	Include airports and bus stops
AWARENESS	AUTO NOTIFICATION OF OZONE ALERT FROM RALEIGH TO INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESSES IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY	Major employers have been contacted in the area. Also, FAST is currently organizing meetings with major employers to explore and expand on car/van pool alternatives.			Decreases Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMTs)

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AWARENESS	SPEAKERS BUREAU Participate in radio/television programs to reach the general public with air quality information and tips, advertise meetings and involve the local newspapers and churches in disseminating information which can help the public in implementing voluntary emission reduction strategies.	Already available. Staff has participated in TV programs broadcasted by the local Community channel and updated episodes will take place on a monthly basis during ozone season. Speakers' participation in radio broadcast and newspaper interviews are being coordinated at this time. Speakers have attended and will continue to attend organizations' meetings upon invitation to provide information and educational material on air quality and ozone	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	Increase Air Quality reports to radio stations, TV, web sites announcing the Air Quality Index (AQI) for today and tomorrow. Consider using PSAs. Contact Banks and businesses to include AQI as part of the daily temperature message signs.
AWARENESS	AIR QUALITY WEB PAGE/PUBLIC INFORMATION Maintain the current Air Quality Web Page by publishing up to date information on ozone issues. Distribute printed material, through bulk mailing, that outlines simple voluntary emission reduction actions	Staff has implemented an aggressive program to educate and motivate the public to take specific actions to minimize pollution. The current web page at www.FAMPO.org has a link to air quality information and DENR's daily Air Quality Index. Printed material with the "Ten Simple Steps" will be periodically mailed with utility bills and school information. The official Cumberland County web page also has a link to air quality information	YES	SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	PROMOTE BUS RIDERSHIP FOR CHILDREN - Fayetteville Area System of Transit (FAST)	Currently in place. FAST currently promotes bus tours for children of all ages; educating them on how to use the transit system and promoting better health with regards to using public transportation. Also, different organization have tours for the children (ex. Boys and Girls Club) and giving them free one way bus passes.		SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	INITIATE AN AIR QUALITY EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AT LOCAL LIBRARIES	Currently in place. Initiated contact with Cumberland County's Library to jointly develop an educational plan. Brochures and handouts are on display at the main library.		SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	DISCOURAGE VEHICLES FROM IDLING DURING DOWNTOWN EVENTS	May require city ordinance. Will require additional power sources for local major events.		SHORT AND LONG TERM	WILL REQUIRE COORDINATION BETWEEN CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, PWC AND EVENTS ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS.
AWARENESS	INSTITUTE A "GOOD AIR QUALITY SEAL OF APPROVAL" FOR BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES WITHIN CUMBERLAND COUNTY	Developing criteria/guidelines for recognition. Explore ways to entice participation		SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	CONDUCT AN AGE APPROPRIATE SCHOOL POSTER/MASCOT/ESSAY CONTEST.	Develop guidelines for poster/essay contest and the mascot to become the spokesperson for Cumberland County		SHORT AND LONG TERM	
AWARENESS	DEVELOP AN AIR QUALITY WEEK TO KICK OFF THE OZONE SEASON	In conjunction with the school contests, the winning poster will be used as part of the "Kick Off" and distributed throughout the county for display		SHORT AND LONG TERM	

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AWARENESS	INFORM LANDSCAPING BUSINESSES Provide information about air quality and discuss several methods to improve the quality of air in our community	Local Governments to make a commitment to lead the way		SHORT AND LONG TERM	